

**ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**June Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, June 10, 2014**

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, June 10, 2014. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Harris, Randy Kleiman,  
Todd Maki, Karen Moore, Maggie Pomeroy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Penegor, Recreation Director  
Cheryl Syers, Recreation Office Assistant  
Ralph Blasier, City Council Liaison

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

**Approval/Correction of the May 13, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes**

The Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes from Tuesday, May 13, 2014. Randy Kleiman motioned to approve the minutes as written. Jonathan Harris seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

None.

**Conflict of Interest Declarations**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Non-Motorized Bike Path Update.** Mr. Penegor presented a revised map proposing two options based on input received from the board at the last meeting held. He informed cost estimates are being obtained for both options and will be presented to the board when received.

Mr. Penegor advised he recently received an e-mail from Carolyn Kennedy stating she was resigning her position at the Michigan Municipal League and Gladstone Recreation Board. He informed she has accepted another position and is moving to Traverse City. He stated her involvement in this project was instrumental and could delay application for project funding from Gladstone to P Road. Board member Todd Maki stated engineering estimates came in lower than anticipated for the Gladstone to P Road project (per Gladstone Recreation Board meeting).

Board Chair Karen Moore stated the clean-up of the Escanaba River pilings is planned for the fall of 2014. Excess grant funding from the piling clean-up may be used to construct a new non-motorized bridge.

Mr. Penegor stated he recently attended the Superior Region Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee seminar at Bay College. While the information was not specific to any project, the information received was useful.

2. **Recreation Passport Grant at Ludington Park Update.** Mr. Penegor informed five (5) invites were sent with five (5) bids received on May 20, 2014. The low bid received was from Tennis Courts Unlimited in the amount of \$48,286. The City received good references for Tennis Courts Unlimited and the bid has been approved by the MDNR. The City Council also approved the bid on June 5, 2014. The Escanaba Schools also recently approved funding to resurface four (4) tennis courts which were included in the bid. The tentative date for work on the project is the last week in June.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Election of Officers.** Randy Kleiman made a nomination of Karen Moore for Chairperson, seconded by Todd Maki, unanimous. Todd Maki made a nomination of Jonathan Harris for Vice Chair, seconded by Randy Kleiman, unanimous.

2. **Veteran's Park Baseball Field Usage.** Mr. Penegor informed he was contacted by Nick Nolde, Athletic Director for Bark River-Harris Schools. A boys' baseball program has recently been added as a self-funded sport; however, currently there is no field to play on. The Bark River-Harris girls' softball teams currently play on the township fields. Mr. Nolde inquired about utilizing Tapani Field at Veteran's Park in 2015 for the boys' baseball with compensation to the City for use. Board member Randy Kleiman commented the boys would need to use wood bats only because of a field distance of only 275'. Board member Todd Maki suggested any compensation received could be used for field improvements. Board Chair Karen Moore stated the Little League Board should be involved so field use can be coordinated. The board stated the fee should be based on the number of games scheduled and to be determined.

3. **Monday Music in Ludington Park Proposal.** Mr. Penegor informed a proposal was received from Wendy Pepin to coordinate and fund the summer Monday night music concerts at the band shell in Ludington Park. Mr. Penegor stated for two years the Monday night concerts were hosted by the Bay Area Arts Association and for the previous year hosted by the Bonifas Fine Arts Association. Earlier this year, the Bonifas had applied and received City Council approval to host the Monday night concert events. The Bonifas recently notified the City of cancellation of the events due to lack of funding. Mr. Penegor advised the Bonifas has also recently undergone some changes in administration.

Ms. Pepin proposes five (5) concerts (four in July and one in August) from 7-9pm on Mondays at the band shell. Tuesday would be the rain make-up. Ms. Pepin has agreed to coordinate and hire the bands, provide all funding, assist in set-up and clean up, as necessary. Ms. Pepin received a quote of \$895 to obtain insurance for the events, which she is unwilling to provide. The City is requested to provide use of the band shell and utilities, promote concerts via Facebook, website, radio, and posters, and provide the insurance coverage for the events. Motion by Randy Kleiman to approve the Music Mondays proposal as presented, seconded by Maggie Pomeroy, unanimous. Secondary motion by Todd Maki

for the City to provide the primary insurance for this event, seconded by Jonathan Harris, unanimous.

**4. Civic Center Activity Report/Upcoming Events.** Mr. Penegor informed the 6 & 7 year old soccer program began today at the soccer field located behind the band shell in Ludington Park with approximately 75 youth participants.

Tennis lessons began today at Veteran's Park with 18 youth participants.

The Civic Center is now hosting the free Escanaba Yellow Bike Program. The free bikes are also available at the Escanaba Municipal Marina.

The Rock the Municipal Dock event held on Saturday, June 7, 2014 was well attended until the weather became unfavorable around 8:00pm. The City hosted the event with musical entertainment by Jelly Head, food vendors, City vehicle rodeo, dunk tank, and children's games. The City will again host similar events on July 5<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Civic Center hosted several end of the school year incentive parties as follows: 05/21/14 Gladstone Kindergarten Reading Buddies-105 youth; 06/03/14 Escanaba Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade-200 youth; Bark River Kindergarten Reading Buddies-142 youth; Escanaba Upper Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> Grade-109 youth; and Bay Middle School-30 youth.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Penegor announced Patricia Boes passed away unexpectedly this morning. She was a former Recreation Advisory Board member for many years and member of the GFWC Woman's Club. She was an advocate for many community programs and will be deeply missed.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

None.

**Adjournment.** With no further business, Randy Kleiman motioned to adjourn the meeting and Todd Maki seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Penegor  
Recreation Director

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Karen Moore, Chairperson

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Date